GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:537
ANSWERED ON:11.11.2010
DECLINE IN EXPORT OF STEEL
Kataria Shri Lal Chand

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of steel is declining constantly in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts being made by the Government to boost the export of steel?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP)

(a) Yes, Madam. The following data compiled by the Joint Plant Committee indicate that the export of finished steel has been declining continuously for the last three years and during April to September, 2010:-

Finished Steel Export (in million tonnes)

Year	Quantity	% change
2007-08	5.077	-3.1
2008-09	4.437	-12.6
2009-10	3.235	-27.1
April-September 2010	1.474	-4.2

Source: Joint Plant Committee (JPC); = Provisional

(b) The decline in export of steel is partly due to rise in domestic demand and also partly due to fall in international steel prices as a result of global recession.

(c) Exports and imports of steel are driven by the opportunities available in the international market and specific requirement by the user industries. The rise or fall of exports, therefore, needs to be seen in the longer term trends as developments over a few years may not reflect any secular trend. The Government, however, supports the industry on a continuous basis with World Trade Organization (WTO) compatible schemes in order to create a level playing field for the industry. Some of the major fiscal steps to help the industry in export of steel are:-

(i) Export duty on all steel products is 'NIL'; and

(ii) Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPB) Scheme is extended to some of the steel products.